## ZINNIAS---BUSINESS GROWS FROM AN AMATEUR GARDEN

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That Victory Garden Collection for Hotbed and

Early Garden
Grand Rapids Lettuce. Scarle
ijobe Radish, Jersey Wakefield Cab
age. Bonny Best Tomato. White
lenna Kablrabi, Green Onion (Seed) These 6 pkts. (purchased 35c separately, 50c) prepaid for 144 Page Catalogue FREE





all the work on big and little ley not only plow but they culti-op that grows. They go between orse mowers; cost less to

neap or some other bit of waste soil almost anywhere. There is very little it is desirable to camouflage with about zinnias in the garden books, but

The plot in the turn around had been left uncared for by the former occupants of our house, so this important little circle resembled a chil-dren's sand pile. True, it seemed that at some time in the past a rose gar-den grew there, but nothing now re-mained save a few very unhealthy plants and knots of wire grass. It was rather late in the season, and while I was busy with my little private war with the bugs and weeds in the vegetable garden, the lady of the house decided to try zinnias, cosmos and sun-flowers in the turn around, an old fashioned selection, it is true, perhaps hopelessly wrong from the modern point of view, but it was a great success from the standpoint of gorgeous color and pleasing effects all during the late summer and fall. Occasional sprinklings were necessary during dry spells, but with this exception the flowers in the turn around demanded no care. . The soil was not even fer tilized and no insecticides were used It was really a haphazard planting but a happy one nevertheless.

All this winter the juncos, chickadees and goldfinches have been feasting the sunflower and zinnia seeds. They are almost gone now, but still these friendly birds come fluttering back to the place which in summer days the brown thrashers and bluebirds had come to call their own.

Because we became very fond of them we looked up the record of zinnias. "How to Make a Flower Garden" says nothing about them; they have found no place in "The Practical Flower Garden." nor are they menioned in "Manual of Gardening" and "Annuals." So we turned to the seed the tl catalogues, where it is soberly and point. truthfully stated: "Zinnias grow in almost any soil and succeed almost require so little attention from the gardener they have been accorded scant notice by the authors of garden



are the best hardy Grapes in existence. Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Currants and Gooseberries par excellence. Our Catalog No. 1 tells all about them. In it are also decribed and offered a full line of Fruit Trees, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Roses, Nut Trees Hodge Plants and Garden Roots. Send for it today-it is FREE.

RED, WHITE AND BLUE GRAPES

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## DAHLIAS

SPECIAL CASH OFFERS

Choice Bulbs. Post paid

NO. 1 COLLECTION, fifteen nimed var-eties, several classes, my own persona selection, no two alike, and each one abeled. COLLECTION contains fitten extra fine high-priced varieties, my own personal selection, no two alike, and each one labeled. This collection contains not less than \$3,50 worth of bulbs. 2.25

COLLECTION contains fifteen varieties, or more of extra n ce assorted bulbs very carefully selected, no two allice, all labeled. The Dahlias in this collection amount to not less than \$7.00 worth... COLLECTION contains twenty-five bulbs, without labels, that have be-come mixed in handling. They are all standard varieties, but labels have accidentally become detached. The supply for this collection is limited. Price, while they last. NO. 5 COLLECTION is made up of entirely new varieties of my introduction.

1 will select an assortment of styles and colors to the amount of \$30.00, or more, for \$25.50; but the selection must be left entirely to me at this

> GEO. L. STILLMAN Dahila Specialist, Westerly, R. I., Box 5-9



Circular bed, bordered with zinnias

a thick, heavy pad to kneel on.

Ivy leaved geraniums give a grand display of color when in bloom, either in the house or garden. They are more tender than the ordinary zonale geraniums and quickly droop when the thermometer reaches the zero

BUSINESS GROWS FROM AN AMATEUR'S GARDEN.

Gardening has been my recreation for many years, but with my brothers' growing interest and the discovery of the fascination as well as the valuable garden results from raising seedlings from the bearded iris it has become an absorbing occupation and business of necessity if others are to benefit by our work.

From a forty foot square of mixed erennials our show garden has grown, ed by bed, until it covers an irregu lar site of perhaps an acre, with iris predominant, even where they might not be expected to grow at all.

A long gravelly bank, overgrown with trees, has become a rock garden, where tulips and other bulbs rise above carpets of low growths, including the smaller iris species, while to the south beyond the seedling beds is a rather shady hollow, where we are leveloping a fine collection of peonies, rambler roses and tulips, to keep the garden full of interest until the last iris is gone, but the beds of iris seedlings are the chief and most unique attraction for our garden visitors. Visitors soon become garden friends and add to our enjoyment.

It was in 1909 that a few chance

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Beginning Feb. 5. Columbia University will offer practical courses supported by excursions, demonstrations and laboratory in the above subjects. Swire raising is taken up for ten lessons in February. Poultry for ten lessons on Saturday afternoons and evenings in March. Other courses afternoons and evenings. Fees moderate. No entrance requirements.

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MERICAN food in vast quantities must continue to go to Europe, and

vital importance to the country. Your garden will help in our country's great work for humanity; and it will cut in two the cost of your table. For years

Peter Henderson & Co. have urged the planting of more gardens because of the

obvious economy, but now there is an added appeal that cannot be disregarded.

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year to year. Our seventy-two years of success in our business of seed raising, test-

ing, and selling has given an unequalled experience that is back of every packet or

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In order to obtain the largest possible distribution for our annual catalogue, "Everything for the Garden,"

we make the following unusual offer: Mail us 10c and we will send you the catalogue, together with this re-

your garden, whether in the city or the town, or on the tarm, is of most

When doing work in the garden that | seedlings awoke my interest, and now | the drill to receive the bulb twelve to equires kneeling fold up a grain bag I cross fertilize hundreds of flowers, sixteen inches long, six inches deep and tie it around the leg so it will form gather many pods, plant hundreds of and about six inches wide. Lay the seeds and in the course of months have bulb down flat in the drill and then an opportunity to judge and compare apply the fertilizer all around the bulb results, the garden value being my criterion. ply a pint or a quart, according to the

There are many branches of interest in the study of Iris, from questions of genetics involving the keeping of careful records, cultural points or the combination of iris with other garden occupants, and not least the iris correspondence during the winter when w get in touch with other iris enthu-

Our garden site has not lent itself to a formal development; it is a "cottage garden," and the many small units, some poorly adapted to growing show unusually well the perennials, possibilities of garden development. The variety of plants is great, but we only grow the iris commercially.

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BARGAIN SEED COLLECTION. A collection of six papers of seeds,

including the popular ponderosa tomato, big Boston lettuce, white tipped scarlet radish, mammoth waved sweet peas, invincible asters and brilliant "Everything for the Garden," their annual catalogue, is offered by Peter Henderson & Co., 35 Cortlandt street, New York, to those who use the bulb before planting. coupon in their advertisement on this

DAHLIA SUGGESTIONS. By GEORGE L. STILLMAN.

Light soil is best for dahlins; a stony knoll on a hillside is ideal. Good drainage is imperative. Heavy land to develop. with clay subsoil should be lightened coal ashes are the better. Spread the ashes heavily and evenly over the sur-

The poorer the soil the more fertilizer it requires and the lighter the soil
hollow centre of the stalk will be
the more water it requires and the lighter the soil
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hollow centre of the stalk will be the more water it needs. In the East-ern States especially dahlias require As soon as dahlias ern States especially dahlias require fertilizing, light soils more than heavy. I find that sheep manure is best for dahlias, and recommend it in preferdily when the buds begin to open is a surly winter day.

As soon as dahlias begin to flower the soil and tell you so mest beautifully. It gives one a genuine thrill to trudge through the snow to gather passies on ally when the buds begin to open is a surly winter day.

J. E. FITZGERALD, ence to others, although stable manure the important time to supply water.

extending from four to five inches beyond it. If sheep manure is used ap-

Stable manure should be spread roadcast and ploughed in before plant ing, and set the stake in the ground before covering, as that avoids pierc ing any part of the bulb. The stem can be tied up to the stakes when the plants are high enough.

For field planting make the distance between every other row three grow tall into sturdy heads. Of course and five feet respectively, thus affording a passageway on one side of each row after the plants become large and fill the three foot space. I'wo and a half to three feet apart in the row is about right for this method of planting.

Do not plant near trees or shrubs. and avoid the south side of a large ouilding, where the sun is hot and air circulation poor, as the flowers will ourn before fully open.

For early flowers dahlias may be planted any time after May 1, or as soon as danger of frost has passed.

Dahlia clumps should be divided at choose for our needs. After the pea poppies, is offered for only 10 cents, and planting time in the spring, being careful to leave at least one sprout on each division. If the sprouts are long cut them off a half inch above the

Keep the ground well cultivated and free from weeds. An application of some standard fertilizer raked into the surface of the soil around the plants two or three times during the season will help in the development of flowers.

Never permit more than two stalks

Watering is one of the most essenwith very liberal applications of coal tial things in producing perfect flowashes or sand, turned under and well ers. Ninety per cent. of the failures mixed with the soil. The coarser the in growing dahlias is due to lack of ers. Ninety per scent, of the failures in growing dahlias is due to lack of water during the hot summer months.

The stalk of the dahlia is about all earth and branches, being sure to prowater excepting the outside shell. vide for ventilation and arrange the The stalk of the dahlia is about all face and then turn them under.

The poorer the soil the more fertillWhere sufficient water is supplied the

Plough or spade the ground for dahlias fully ten inches deep, and twelve inches if the soil will permit it. Make

One good method of supplying water is to make a basin shaped mound of at any time. I raise fifty chickens, four ducks are the soil will permit it. Make

feet in diameter, and into this turn three or four palls of water every guineas. By November I have about inches if the soil will permit it. Make feet in diameter, and into this turn three or four days. Fertilizer is used to obtain size, water to make richness in quart glass jars all but four, which are saved for immediate killing. The of color and perfection. turkey is for Thanksgiving, two ducks

and a guinea for Christmas, and the A WOMAN'S SUCCESSFUL GARothers for company dinners. By early

from a prosperous, fat Ohio farm to an Eastern suburb with one lot for little secret of egg production. I bevegetables. I looked at that lot with lieve, is told by a home made charcoal sinking heart when I thought how I stove and green feed in abundance. I think I shall build a second story to my henhouse and add Belgian hare lavish, wasteful ideas in order to have or opossum to my list of live stock, as something to eat! All that the patch a variation in the meat supply. of ground could possibly raise would of ground could possibly raise would family in the neighborhood keeps a the kind that market gardeners use not be as much as was yearly thrown goat for milk, utilizing their lawn away in the big home garden. And I grass and coarse garden stuffs. This failed completely. There was that year is a method of ecosomy which I shall no root cellar, no dried vegetables, no adopt next year because even one's surplus of any kind. Why, there were lawn should be useful as well as ornanot even enough radishes! Of course mental. things grew, as the soil was good and things grew, as the soil was good and the succession of planting was all right, for these things were a matter goat will provide milk, but not butter. This second half of the cow is in a of course to one reared in the country, but—there was a herb garden, a long dark corner of the cellar. There I row of sweet peas, martynias and a melon patch. It was all very well and pretty, but it didn't fill the winter storerooms. Next year I calculated a little more, eliminated a great deal and good things. I dry some of the fruit; did better, but the results were not a

farm, and many things were missing. All winter long I planned anew for my miniature farm.

prehension of how poor some soil could be. In fact I did not know there canning rage of the past season I had nothing to can but a quart of spinach-I, a farmer's daughter!

son. I've learned my lesson and I expect a full larder next fall. With my early experience in Ohio plus my new knowledge of pests and impovershed soll I feel equipped for my next attempt. My garden is planned once more, and I think my ideas may belp those similarly situated who do not want to waste three seasons in learn-

In the first place there is a good layer of stablemanure over my prospective garden right now. The other day I engaged all the chicken drop-pings of two neighbors with well filled hen houses to put on in the spring. The soil will be treated with lime (it is a bit soid, and then if it does not

ook rich and sweet enough to my suspicious eyes when planting time comes I shall invest in commercial fertilizer ings are converted into amber jelly, flashing pink in the sun-a beautiful for the root crops. One thing I have learned—rich soil pays. learned—rich soil pays.

I will not describe the diagram of

sentials. But there must still be much

thinking to provide for the good things

possible, but it isn't; only formidable

Across the foot of my garden are

two rows of poles for Kentucky Won-

color and delicious flavor all winter.

There are twenty-four poles. At their

be planted to supply the demand of

Sunday evening sandwiches and com-

pany salads. This was a successful

venture of my first garden. The next

is a friend's idea. With planks run-

ning lengthwise he enclosed a square

of 12 feet about 3 feet deep. He made

fodder, putting seed potatoes on each

year.

three layers of soil, manure and corn

layer. In this queer little three storied

garden I shall alternate sunflowers and

kale. The lower leaves of the kale must

be cut away, enabling the stalks to

they are for the chickens and in-

cidentally they add a unique touch to

my garden. I cut out the centres of the kale while tender and salt them

down in a stone jar, making a good

supply of winter greens, and bury the

heads and stalks for the chickens to

eat after Christmas. After the beets,

carrots, celery, cabbage, peas and sal-

sify are planted there will be no space

for corn. I shall buy that of some

south side for the opening. If things

My chickens have been a success

There is still one item lacking to

raise mushrooms in summer and force

rhubarb in winter, trade these to my

grocer for butter and voila, the cow

An old apple tree gives a variety of

shelves; use others for old fashioned

apple butter, heavy and black, and for another kind, lighter and sweeter,

flavored with elderberry juice until it

is sparkling red and delicious, unlike

is complete!

a surly winter day.

patch he raised thirty-two bushels of

Of course I shall try it next

Around the edge of the entire

jelly, indeed. Even the cores and seeds are not wasted as the chickens get them. Of course I ought to have an A well cooked cereal my garden, for each garden is differartistic hive of bees near by to gather ent, and half the fun is applying one's the honey of the blossoms; perhaps metime I will have. clinations. My slogan is, "Essentials! Essentials! Essentials!" I shall have This isn't a day dream. I've tried

out at different times everything but the goat and the marvellous potato no martynias or watermelons. The brutesels sprouts and eggplant will be in a patch. Next year I shall combine my flower bed at the south of the house, past successes and have a flourishing little farm that will put many dollars my muskmelon and cucumber vines trained on the porches, the border of or a Liberty bond into the bank, inthe circular flower bed planted in radstead of into the pockets of the ishes and black Simpson lettuce, with some jolly Swiss chard encircling a butcher, the baker, the candle stick FLORENCE ALLEN. maker. lovely giant ponderosa tomato in the very centre. I once saw a bed like this in a English garden and it was

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fine potatoes. It sounds fishy but it's beds, Cold Fran

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sles are very enthusiastic over the idea each, Five for \$3. Foliage

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apples, half and half. All apple peel- of bread and butter, is adequate The dinner may consist of a lightly cooked egg, spinach or peas or string beans, mashed baked potatoes or boiled A well cooked cereal with thin cream

milk to drink, and stewed fruit make an acceptable supper. A lightly cooked egg, bread and butter, milk to drink and a baked apple are likewise desir. able for the evening meal.

Fried eggs are not suitable for chil. dren.



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started right.

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wrap the select specimens in paper after coating the stems with scaling wax and store them on cool, dry Buccess. -My dim. was te- ve just about everything that I had on the Ohio

My experiment last summer was on a larger lot, but the failure was tragic. an apple product. A delicious marma-Carrots were the size of one's thumb, potatoes were little larger than marbles, and such miniature beets mortal never saw. This time it was the soil, My Western mind simply had no comwas such soil anywhere outside the Shhara. So to my chagrin in all the

But things will be different next sea-

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